

Service of Worship
Sunday, February 16, 2014

"Heart of the Matter"

For reflection **Psalm 119:1-8** inspires people to take their hearts, thoughts and intentions seriously.

-How do you respond to the encouragement, "Happy are those?"

-What does positive reinforcement in a religious context look like?

-How do we sometimes instruct with shame when we mean to encourage with praise?

A proverb to ponder:

"Injure others, injure yourself." Chinese Proverb

** an invitation to rise in body or spirit, as you are comfortable*

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

(light Christ candle)

L: The light in all of life!

ALL: May we be a light unto others. May Gods' Spirit of Truth shine a light on what is really true to us, deep in our hearts.

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 119)

L: Happy are you who are guided by God, who keep the commandments, and seek with your whole hearts.

P: Happy are we for God is steadfast and we feel steadier in God's way.

L: Happy are you when you cast off shame and let your hearts bear God's love openly.

P: We praise you, God, with an upright heart, moulded in love, taught by mercy, sustained by the Spirit.

L: Let us praise God with love and happiness. Amen.

***Opening Hymn - musician's choice**

Opening Prayer

Children's Hymn - 570 "Jesus Hands"
Time with Children & Lord's Prayer
Hymn - 585 "Jesus bids us shine" vs. 1,2

Prayer of Confession

Silence is kept for personal prayer.

Assurance of Grace

L: For God so loved the world, God gave earth to heaven, dry land to the waters, humankind to the garden, descendants to Abraham, rainbows to the ark, a new covenant to Israel, commandments to Moses, and a saviour in Jesus. Sisters and brothers, God so loves you that God continues to set before you the choices towards life and abundance. For this, let us give thanks!

Gospel: Matthew 5:21-37

After the scripture is heard:

One: God, help us to hear your Holy Word in fresh ways. Open our ears to the call of your voice.

All: Help us to know your Word and open our hearts to love and serve you. Thanks be for your holy Word!

Music for Meditation

Sermon - "Heart of the Matter"

Minute for Mission

Offering & *Offertory - 542 "We give you..."

***Prayer of Dedication**

L: All that we are, O God, and all we are called to be, we bring to this special moment of offering and hope.

ALL: Receive these gifts and in your wisdom may they be used in caring ways. Amen.

Prayers of the People

***Closing Hymn** - *musician's choice*

***Sending Forth**

***Sung Benediction** - **"Go now in peace..."**

Sources: "SpiritFUSION - Seasons of the Spirit, Epiphany 2014", Wood Lake Publishing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Keady Annual Meeting today at noon; please stay after the service for lunch and fellowship.

Official Board Annual Meeting has been rescheduled to its snow date: Tues, Feb 25, at 7 pm at Kilsyth. All are welcome to attend and will be given corresponding privileges (i.e. may speak, but not vote); light refreshments will be served.

Book Group - meeting at Connie Radbourne's home on Thursday March 6, 7:30 pm. We're reading "The Book of Negroes" by Lawrence Hill. All are welcome to join us for an engaging time of conversation and exploring ideas. For more info: Deborah, 519-799-5804 or xoliswa2906@wightman.ca